

Message Text

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63

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NEA-10 ARA-06 SAJ-01 OMB-01 IO-13 SAM-01 /093 W

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R 261052Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2253

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 3081

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS PROP SOPN GH

SUBJ: SEMINARY IN MEMORY OF KWAME NKRUMAH AND PRESS REACTION
CRITICIZING U.S.

1. THIRD QUOTE INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR UNQUOTE IN MEMORY OF KWAME NKRUMAH OPENED APRIL 23 SPONSORED BY GHANA PEACE AND SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATION (GPSO). EVENT END APRIL 26. DELEGATES FROM GUINEA, GUINEA-BISSAU, ANGOLA, NIGERIA, UGANDA, EGYPT, QUOTE REPUBLIC OF YEMEN UNQUOTE (PRESUMABLY PDRY), USSR AND SEVERAL EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ATTENDED WITH LOCAL GPSO AND LEFTIST YOUTH LEADERS. OPENING SESSION INCLUDED ADDRESS FROM HEAD OF STATE GENERAL ACHEAMPONG, BUT READ FOR HIM BY COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS COL. D.A. IDDISAH. LOCAL MEDIA REPORTED ACHEAMPONG RECEIVED A GABONESE EMISSARY AT HIS RESIDENCED ON THE EVENING OF APRIL 23.

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2 SPEECH BY GPSO PRESENT, KWESI GHAPSON, FOCUSED ON CLIMAXING LIBERATION STRUGGLE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND CRITICIZED QUOTE IMPERIALIST POWERS UNQUOTE, WITHOUT ACTUALLY NAMING U.S., WHICH, ACCORDING TO GHAPSON, ARE ALLIED WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN AND RHODESIAN REGIMES. GHAPSON ALSO PRASIED CUBA AND THE USSR FOR ASSITING THE MPLA AND CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFRICAN HIGH COMMAND TO CONDUCT THE WAR OF LIBERATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. COL. IDDISAH WAS MORE LOW KEY BUT STILL CRITICIZED QUOTE NOISES UNQUOTE FROM THE WESTERN WORLD OVER EVENTS IN SOUTHER AFRICA WHICH THREATENED THE WEST'S QUOTE COMMERCIAL UNQUOTE AND QUOTE IDEOLOGICAL UNQUOTE INTEREST. THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE, ACCORDING TO THE SPEECH, WILL GO ON REGARDLESS.

3. LOCAL PRESS HAS GIVEN THE CONFERENCE AND ITS IMPLICIT ANTI-AMERICAN CONTENT WIDE AND FAVORABLE COVERAGE. QUOTE GHANAIAN TIMES UNQUOTE HAS COUPLE THIS REPORTING WITH ARTICLES CRITICAL OF SECRETARY OF STATE'S VISIT TO GHANA AND OTHER EXPLICITLY ANTI-AMERICAN ITEMS WHICH WE BELIEVE ARE NO COINCIDENCE. SAMPLING OF THE APRIL 26 PRESS INCLUDES LEAD HEADLINE QUOTE AFRICA NOW FED UP WITH U.S. INTRIGUES UNQUOTE, ANOTHER LEAD ARTICLE ALLEGING SALE OF HUMAN BEINGS IN THE U.S. AND LEADING QUOTE LETTER UNQUOTE TO THE EDITOR WITH LARGE HEADLINE QUOTE SMC MUST CHASE OUT CIA AGENTS UNQUOTE WHICH ALLEGES THAT DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GEORGE BUSH WAS ONCE STATIONED AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN GHANA AS A CIA OFFICER. LETTER CLAIMS THAT SINCE THE CIA ENGINEERED THE COUP OVERTHROWING NKRUMAH IN 1966 IT POSES A SIMILAR THREAT TO THE SMC GOVERNMENT WHICH PURSUES SIMILAR POLICIES TO NKRUMAH'S. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT PRESS, PARTICULARLY QUOTE TIMES UNQUOTE ATTACKS ON U.S. ARE TO LARGE DEGREE SOVIET-INSPIRED AND MAY BUILD UP IN TEMPO IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AS SECRETARY'S VISIT DRAWS CLOSER.

4. FURTHER COMMENTS ON PRESS REACTION BEING TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY.
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To: SECSTATE WASHDC ABIDJAN CONAKRY DAR ES SALAAM KINSHASA LAGOS LONDON LUSAKA
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